

Tips for Tile Carpet Maintenance

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Preventative Maintenance

It is said that placing scraper mats at entrance, landing of escalator and elevator can prevent more than 80% of soil from being brought into a building. In other words, for preventative maintenance, using a scraper mat is extremely effective.

Daily Maintenance

Vacuum the carpet on daily basis. Upright vacuum cleaner that comes with brush is suitable for everyday use. Rotating brush beats the pile and removes soil, dust and particles. Prompt treatment of stains is recommended, because more work will be required to remove stains if they become old.

Vacuuming more than once a day is recommended so that new stains can be detected. Please refer to the spot cleaning method mentioned on the next page for further details. If there are any sprouting piles, clip them with scissors.

Regular maintenance (Once in 2-3 months)

In addition to daily maintenance, if you regularly clean the carpet with a powder method, you will be able to maintain the beautiful surface of the carpet. This method is effective and convenient, because it does not wet the carpet piles so that you do not have to block traffic. This method is to apply absorbent compounds onto the carpet and vacuum the compound along with the dirt on the carpet.

Bonnet method, which uses cotton pad with cleaning solution, is also convenient, because this does not require much water, dries quickly and does not block traffic.

Deep Cleaning for Persistent Stains (Once or twice a year)

When the two methods mentioned above became ineffective to completely clean the piles, the remaining stains mostly consist of greasy or adhesive substances, which are unable to be removed by ordinary vacuuming. Usually, vacuuming only cleans the surface of the piles. For solving this problem, a shampoo cleaning method is recommended. Since this is a wet cleaning method, this must not be used to the carpet, which has electric wiring underneath, and sufficient drying time have to be taken into account.

- **Hot Water Cleaning (Steam Cleaning)**

Heated detergent at a high temperature with high pressure is injected into the carpet piles, and then the liquid, which contains dirt, will be immediately extracted. This method leaves the least amount of detergent in the pile. (If detergent is not properly removed, this may darken the carpet)

- **Rotary Brush Cleaning (Shampoo Cleaning)**

With this method, the most stubborn stains can be removed.

Caution: Please beware that when the cleaning equipment washes a large area continuously for many hours, the equipment might be damaged due to friction between its brush and the surface of the carpet.

Be careful not to operate the cleaner for too long at a time.

Spot Cleaning Method

When you detect any stains or blots, identify the cause of the stains and treat them immediately by the following methods.

Cause	Cleaning Methods
Soy Sauce / Worcester Sauce	Soak up the sauce with cloth or tissue as much as possible, then wipe with cloth dipped in warm, diluted neutral detergent. If the stain is persistent, scour with a brush. For old stains, wipe with hydrogen peroxide solution.
Mud	Wait until the mud dries out, and then sweep thoroughly with soft brush. Moisten the dirt with warm thin neutral detergent and wipe off.
Chewing Gum	Roll and pick up the chewing gum as much as possible, and apply ice cubes onto the remainder to harden it, and remove it.
Blood	Blot the bloodstain with tissue and wipe with hydrogen peroxide solution.

The following explains how to treat nursing-care-related stains.

Cause	Cleaning Methods
Urine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wipe immediately with salt water or diluted nitric acid or a mixture of alcohol and acetic acid, and then wipe thoroughly with diluted neutral detergent.• Wipe immediately with cold water, and then wipe with hot towel that has been dampened with a solution of detergent containing glycol ethyl ether.• When the stain is persistent, detach the affected tile carpet from the floor, wash it with brush and neutral detergent, rinse with running water and dry it in the shade.
Stool	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wipe immediately with salt water, and then wipe with 5% ammonia water, finish up with warm thin detergent.• If the stool is too soft, sprinkle white powder on it such as salt, ash or powdered cleanser and remove it along with the powder by brush, and then wipe with cold water.• When the stain is persistent, detach the affected tile carpet from the floor, wash it with brush and neutral detergent, rinse with running water and dry it in the shade.

Never use bleach to clean piece-dyed carpet

Carpet Maintenance

With proper maintenance, carpet is an excellent flooring material that retains its original comfort. Familiarizing yourself with appropriate maintenance methods will make the carpet last longer.

- **Maintenance Effective and Cost Effective**

Maintenance is the major expense factor in the carpet life cycle cost, which is the total cost for a carpet during its service life. Carpet is an economical flooring material, since it requires less maintenance cost, compared to other materials. Especially, wool not only has an antifouling effect, but also is highly cleanable and washable. According to a survey conducted in Western countries, each market reported that carpet requires the least frequent cleaning. Carpet maintenance costs only 60% of that of hard flooring materials.

- **Maintenance Program**

There are many factors to spoil the beauty of carpet, such as stains, damaged piles, pile crush, soiling, scorching by cigarette, etc. Daily cleaning and regular cleaning depending on the use conditions are necessary in order to use carpets longer and keep them beautiful

Frequency of cleaning depends on how dirty the carpets are. Therefore, the more the carpet gathers dirt, the more powerful maintenance program needs to be carried out. You may have contracted professional cleaners or your own cleaning staff, but in either case, make sure to have them clean the carpet regularly and appropriately for maintaining beautiful carpet longer.

- **For Maintaining Carpets' Beautiful Appearance**

1. For keeping beautiful carpet surface, carry out daily maintenance by vacuum cleaner.
2. For the carpets in business use, in addition to daily maintenance, further regular maintenance is recommended.
3. When a carpet is stained, wipe immediately. Be careful not to spread the stain to other part of the carpet. As time passes, the stain becomes harder to be removed. Some substances may not be able to be eliminated.
4. When you spot any sprouting piles, clip them with scissors so that the protrusion will not affect other piles.
5. Condensation trickling down from a cold concrete wall may cause fading and molding of the carpet. This should be prevented by frequent ventilation.
6. If a carpet is exposed to direct sunlight for a long time, piles may discolor. Use curtains or window shades for prevention.
7. Make sure to use neutral detergent for carpets, chlorine detergents can change or fade the color of the carpets.
8. Insecticide, moth repellent or disinfectant can change or fade the carpets' colors.

Carpet Cleaning Methods

	Steam Cleaning Method	Rotary Shampoo Method	Extraction Method	Dry Foam Extraction Method	Powder Method (Dry Extraction)	Bonnet Method (Yarn Pad Method)
Description	High temperature/pressure steam and a strong vacuum, which can decompose dirt in the carpet pile and vacuum simultaneously, characterize this method. Its effect is comparable to rotary shampoo method. Simply reciprocating this cleaner several times over the same spot can remove dirt even in confined places such as the corner of a room or under a desk. Equipped with an automatic water recovery function.	Together with detergent, rotary brush (polisher) physically removes dirt from the pile. Currently, this is the most popular wet cleaning method. After shampooing, dirt is removed by rinsing and extraction process.	Specially designed machine injects pressurized water or cleaning solution into the pile, and while brushing, suspended soil and solution are extracted simultaneously.	A detergent solution is whipped into foam in the machine and applied to the carpet. The foam and powerful brushing suspend the soil. After brushing, the foam that contains dirt dries and turns into powder, which is vacuumed shortly afterward.	This method uses powder cleaner, an absorbent compound made from wood or resin saturated with detergent. The powder is brushed in and around the fibers and extract dirt, which is vacuumed later.	A spin pad made of cotton or resin absorbs soil. Detergent may be either applied onto the carpet beforehand or applied to the pad.
Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevacuuming 2. Applying preconditioning agent 3. Injecting high pressured steam and vacuuming simultaneously 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevacuuming 2. Applying preconditioning agent 3. Shampooing by polisher 4. Rinsing 5. Drying 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevacuuming 2. Applying preconditioning agent 3. Extraction 4. Drying 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevacuuming 2. Applying preconditioning agent 3. Dry foaming 4. Drying 5. Vacuuming 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevacuuming 2. Applying preconditioning agent 3. Applying powder 4. Brushing 5. Vacuuming 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevacuuming 2. Applying preconditioning agent 3. Buffing 4. Drying 5. Vacuuming
Score	Washability.....5 Simplicity.....4 Drying.....4 Anti-refouling.....4 Damage to pile.....4 Hygienic effect.....5 Detergent removal.5	Washability.....5 Simplicity.....1 Drying.....1 Anti-refouling.....2 Damage to pile.....1 Hygienic effect.....1 Detergent removal.1	Washability.....4 Simplicity.....3 Drying.....2 Anti-refouling.....4 Damage to pile.....5 Hygienic effect.....3 Detergent removal.3	Washability.....3 Simplicity.....5 Drying.....4 Anti-refouling.....3 Damage to pile.....3 Hygienic effect.....1 Detergent removal.2	Washability.....2 Simplicity.....5 Drying.....5 Anti-refouling.....3 Damage to pile.....3 Hygienic effect.....1 Detergent removal.2	Washability.....1 Simplicity.....4 Drying.....5 Anti-refouling.....2 Damage to pile.....3 Hygienic effect.....2 Detergent removal.3
Advantages	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Powerful cleaning ability 2. Quickly dries carpets by preheating and strong vacuum. 3. Equipped with continuous water supply/drainage function. 4. Simple process. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Powerful cleaning ability, which is ideal for stubborn and embedded soil. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soil can be removed instantaneously. 2. Carpet-pile friendly. 3. Simple process. 	Simple process, and requires no techniques. Better suited for mild soils.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quickly dries because no water is used in this method. 2. Carpet can be walked on while cleaning. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better suited for mild soils on the carpet surface. 2. Quickly dries because no water is used in this method.
Disadvantages	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vehicle mounted type cleaner is expensive. 2. Parking space is required. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This method takes longer time to dry carpets due to the use of large quantity of water. 2. Time / labor consuming. 3. Brush friction can damage piles. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This method may wet the carpet excessively. 2. Longer drying time. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This cleaner has only forward movement, therefore working area might be limited. 2. Moderate cleaning ability. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cleaning ability is less powerful. 2. If vacuuming after brushing is insufficient, the powder spreads and becomes visually undesirable. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cleaning ability is less powerful. 2. Pads need to be replaced often to prevent transfer of soil back to the carpet surface.

Score Level : 1 (Poor) – 5 (Excellent)